

Honoring Nations 2010 Online Application

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE GOVERNANCE OF AMERICAN INDIAN NATIONS

At the heart of Honoring Nations is the principle that tribes themselves hold the key to generating social, political, cultural, and economic prosperity and that self-governance plays a crucial role in building and sustaining strong, healthy Indian nations. Honoring Nations serves as a vehicle for collectively celebrating our many and diverse successes, fostering pride and confidence in the ability of American Indian governments to improve the well-being of their respective communities and citizens. Award-winning programs serve as important sources of knowledge and inspiration that are drawn upon throughout Indian Country and far beyond. To date the Honoring Nations family includes 102 exemplary contributions.

To help facilitate the spread of best practices and knowledge, programs are awarded High Honors and \$20,000 or Honors and \$10,000 to share their success stories with others. Monetary awards have supported dissemination efforts such as websites, convenings, publication materials, and educational videos. A symposium will be held the following year to facilitate learning and sharing with the celebrated programs. The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development also produces reports, case studies, and other curricular materials that are shared with tribal leaders, public servants, the media, scholars, students, and others interested in promoting and fostering excellence in tribal governance.

SEND YOUR APPLICATION TO:

The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development
John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
79 John F. Kennedy Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

If we can be of further assistance, please contact:

Misko Beaudrie, Associate Director of Honoring Nations
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Email: manon_beaudrie@ksg.harvard.edu

Eligibility

Note: This application refers to all programs, practices, and initiatives as “Contributions.” To be eligible for an Honoring Nations award, the Contribution to good governance must:

- Be administered under the authority of an American Indian nation or Alaska Native community (or an office, division, or agency thereof) that played a formative role in designing and implementing the Contribution.
- Be submitted by the tribal government office, division, or agency responsible for oversight and/or administration of the Contribution.

NOTE: Partnerships with other entities (nonprofits, private organizations, or other governmental entities) are encouraged, but the application must be submitted by a tribal government or tribal government entity.

- Have been in operation for at least 12 months prior to the application deadline.

NOTE: Multiple applications from a single nation are welcome. Programs that have previously applied are encouraged to re-apply if they were not previously awarded High Honors or Honors.

Selection Criteria

At each stage of the selection process, applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- **Effectiveness** – The Contribution achieves positive and measurable results in addressing a key concern, problem, or challenge facing the nation and its citizens.
- **Significance to Sovereignty** – The Contribution strengthens self-governance and self-determination for the nation.
- **Cultural Relevance** – The Contribution fits, reflects, and strengthens the nation’s culture.
- **Transferability** – The Contribution’s concepts, principles, and practices are applicable to other governments.
- **Sustainability** – The Contribution shows promise of sustained effectiveness.

Selection Process & Deadline Schedule

- Applications submitted for Honoring Nations 2010 must be received by **5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, Jan. 29, 2010.**
- In **March**, 30-35 programs will be chosen as semifinalists. The Harvard Project staff will conduct a short telephone interview with representatives of each of the semifinalist programs. Each semifinalist will then be asked to submit supplemental information and a letter of endorsement from the chief executive of the nation (i.e., chief, chairperson, president, governor, etc.).
- In **May**, up to 10 programs will be selected to receive a site visit. Site visits are conducted by small teams of 2 to 3 people from the Harvard Project staff, Board of Governors, and/or experts within the field.
- In **June, July, and August**, one-day site visits will be conducted. Finalist will be notified shortly after.
- In **November**, finalists will gather for the final round of evaluation (tentatively in Albuquerque, New Mexico)—held in conjunction with the annual session of the National Congress of American Indians. Finalists will be asked to make a 10-minute presentation to the Board of Governors and the public. The Board will then deliberate and select High Honors and Honors recipients.
- In **December**, honorees will be asked to develop a short proposal that describes how their monetary award will be used. Monetary awards must be used to share information about the honored Contribution.

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE GOVERNANCE OF AMERICAN INDIAN NATIONS 2010 Application

Information

(1) Name of Contribution (program/practice/initiative): *Please limit to six words or fewer.*

(2) Name of Tribal Dept./Agency/Office submitting application:

(3) Name of American Indian nation or Alaska Native community:

(4) Number of persons served by the Contribution: _____

(5) Contact Information: *Please list a primary contact person and a secondary contact person with whom Honoring Nations staff and the general public can readily communicate.*

Primary Contact:

Name: _____ Tribal Affiliation (optional): _____

Title: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Web site: _____

Secondary Contact:

Name: _____ Tribal Affiliation (optional): _____

Title: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Web site: _____

(6) When was the Contribution created? Month/Year: _____

(7) Funding source(s) for the Contribution:

a. _____% tribal

d. _____% private

b. _____% federal

e. _____% other

c. _____% state

Comments about how the Contribution is funded:

(8) Check all relevant program topic area(s):

☐ 1001 = Cultural Affairs

☐ 5001 = Government Performance

☐ 2001 = Economic & Community Development

☐ 6001 = Health and Social Services

☐ 3001 = Education

☐ 7001 = Intergovernmental Relations

☐ 4001 = Environment and Natural Resources

☐ 8001 = Justice

(9) How did you learn about Honoring Contributions in the Governance of American Indian Nations?

a. ☐ sent application in mail

d. ☐ colleague or departmental circulation

b. ☐ newspaper/magazine/internet

e. ☐ nominated

c. ☐ professional conference

f. ☐ other: _____

(10) Has this Contribution applied to Honoring Nations before? If so, when? _____

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Instructions

- Please submit the following information within the allotted word limits. Please provide specific examples and supporting data and evidence. Also, indicate if there is any confidential information that cannot be shared with the general public.
- Please type all responses on 8 1/2 x 11 paper, using 1-inch margins and 11-point font or larger. Each page should have the name of the program and the nation in the top right hand corner. At the top of each essay, please type out the question being answered.
- Do not staple any part of the application. Do not attach any supplemental information, as it will not be evaluated. Note: Each essay has specific word limits.
- **Application Deadline: must be received by 5:00 pm Eastern Time on January 29th, 2010.**

Essays

Please answer the following questions within the word limits.

- 1. Provide a two-to-three sentence summary describing the Contribution and its importance.**
- 2. Define the concern, problem, or challenge that the Contribution addresses.** Provide data and examples that clearly illustrate the problem or challenge being addressed. (max 400 words)
- 3. Explain how the Contribution responds to or addresses this problem.** Include basic information about the Contribution: its purpose, its mission, who it serves, how it operates, etc. (max 400 words)
- 4. Describe the specific achievements or positive changes that result from the Contribution.** Provide specific, measurable data wherever possible. If data are not available, provide anecdotal examples that highlight the Contribution's success. (max 200 words)
- 5. Describe how the Contribution meets the criteria below.** Write a two-to-three sentence summary for each.
 - a. Significance to Sovereignty** – The Contribution strengthens self-governance and self-determination for the nation.
 - b. Cultural Relevance** – The Contribution fits, reflects, and strengthens the nation's culture.
 - c. Transferability** – The Contribution's concepts, principles, and practices are applicable to other governments.
 - d. Sustainability** – The Contribution shows promise of sustained effectiveness.